

**A M E N D M E N T S   t o   t h e   C L A I M S**

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application is provided below. The status of each claim is identified. Markings indicate any changes that have been made to claims being currently amended by this Amendment.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for providing a benefit to a customer, comprising:

receiving an identification of a customer involved in a transaction with a third party;  
determining a preventative treatment for the customer; [and]  
offering a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction if the customer adopts the preventative treatment;  
receiving an indication that the customer agrees to adopt the preventative treatment; and  
providing the benefit.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving further comprises receiving the identification from at least one of: the customer, a merchant, a web site operator, an acquaintance of the customer, a family member related to the customer, a doctor, a pharmacist, an insurance provider, and a government agency.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the identification comprises at least one of: a unique identifier associated with the customer and a name of the customer.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein said customer is involved in a transaction comprising at least one of: a purchase of a product, a purchase of a service, an insurance premium, and an online purchase.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the customer has profile information comprising at least one of:

an age of the customer, a gender of the customer, a geographic location corresponding to a residence of the customer, a medical history of the customer, a medical history of the

customer's family, an occupation of the customer, a previous preventative treatment adopted by the customer, and at least one preventative treatment not adopted by the customer.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the preventative treatment further comprises at least one of:

a preventative health treatment, a preventative automobile repair, and a preventative home maintenance repair.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 6, wherein the preventative health treatment comprises at least one of:

a blood test, a cancer screening, a blood pressure screening, a teeth-cleaning treatment, a mammogram, a pap smear, a sigmoidoscopy, a colonoscopy, an immunization, a psychiatric examination, a psychological examination, a dental examination and a physical examination.

8. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises:

determining the preventative treatment based on a list of preventative treatments not undertaken by the customer.

9. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises:

determining the preventative treatment based on a list of preventative treatments not undertaken by the customer within a predetermined time.

10. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises:

determining a plurality of preventative treatments, wherein the customer may adopt at least one of said plurality of preventative treatments.

11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises determining a plurality of preventative treatments, the method further comprising:

comparing a cost associated with each of said plurality of preventative treatments; and  
selecting at least one of said plurality of preventative treatments based on said comparing.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 11, wherein said selecting further comprises:

selecting a preventative treatment having a lowest cost.

13. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the preventative treatment corresponds to at least one condition.

14. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
determining a future cost for the at least one condition, wherein the future cost is determined based on a probability of the customer contracting the condition.

15. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
determining a future cost for the at least one condition, wherein the future cost is determined based on a probability of the customer contracting the condition within a predetermined time.

16. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
determining a future cost, wherein the future cost is determined based on total cost for treating the condition.

17. (CANCELLED)

18. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving a confirmation from a third party that the preventative treatment has been  
adopted by the customer.
19. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 18, further comprising:  
updating profile information for the customer based on the confirmation.
20. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the benefit is provided by  
an insurer of the customer.
21. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 20, wherein the benefit is determined  
based on a probability that the customer will remain insured by the insurer for a predetermined  
time.
22. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving a security for the benefit from the customer.
23. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 22, wherein the security comprises an  
authorization to charge a financial account in the amount of the benefit.
24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 23 ~~22~~, wherein the  
financial account comprises at least one of: a checking account, a savings account, a credit card  
account, and an alternative currency account.
25. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 22, wherein the security is used to  
reimburse the payment of the benefit when a predetermined condition is not met.
26. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 25, wherein the predetermined  
condition comprises a determination that the preventative treatment was adopted.

27. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 25, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a determination that the preventative treatment was adopted within a predetermined time.

28. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a requirement that the customer remain insured by an insurer for a predetermined time.

29. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 25, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a requirement that the customer selects an insurance provider.

30. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
assigning a treatment provider for the selected preventative treatment.

31. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the benefit comprises at least one of: a currency amount, an alternate currency amount, a percentage discount on a purchase, and a reduced insurance premium.

32. (CANCELED)

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, in which ~~wherein~~ providing the benefit comprises receiving is provided to the customer after receipt of a confirmation that the preventative treatment has been adopted.

34. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 1, wherein the benefit is provided to a third party involved in a transaction with the customer.

35. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
determining the benefit based on an expected future cost.

36. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
determining a present value of a future cost associated with the preventative treatment;  
and  
determining the benefit based on the present value.

37. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the benefit is provided in  
at least one installment payment.

38. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 1, wherein the benefit is provided to  
one of: a party referring the customer and a party identified by the customer.

39. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the benefit is provided by  
at least one of: an insurer, a group of insurers, a physician, an employer, a family member of the  
customer, a government agency, a drug manufacturer, a medical equipment manufacturer, an  
automobile repair center and a maintenance provider.

40. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving a medical statistic of the customer with the identification.

41. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the identification does not  
include a name of the customer.

42. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the preventative treatment  
comprises an agreement to avoid the undertaking of a hazardous activity.

43. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the preventative treatment  
comprises an educational assignment regarding a condition.

44. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 43, wherein the educational  
assignment comprises at least one of: attendance of an educational seminar and reading  
educational literature.

45. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises determining a preventative treatment based on profile information corresponding to the customer.

46. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for providing a benefit to a customer, comprising:  
means for accepting an identification of a customer involved in a transaction;  
means for specifying a preventative treatment to the customer; ~~and~~  
means for presenting an offer of a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction if the customer adopts the preventative treatment;  
means for receiving an indication that the customer agrees to adopt the preventative treatment; and  
means for providing the benefit.

47. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for providing a benefit to a customer, comprising:  
a processor; and  
a memory in operative communication with the processor, the memory including a plurality of processing instructions for directing the processor to:  
receive an identification of a customer involved in a transaction;  
identify a preventative treatment for the customer; ~~and~~  
offer a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction if the customer adopts the preventative treatment;  
receive an indication that the customer agrees to adopt the preventative treatment;  
and  
provide the benefit.

48. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method, performed by a computer, for providing a benefit to a customer, the method comprising:

receiving an identification of a customer involved in a transaction;  
identifying a preventative treatment for the customer; and  
offering a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction if the customer adopts the preventative treatment;  
receiving an indication that the customer agrees to adopt the preventative treatment; and  
providing the benefit.

49. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for providing a benefit, comprising:  
receiving a first identification of a transaction involving a customer;  
transmitting a second identification of a preventative treatment to be adopted by the customer;  
receiving an indication that the preventative treatment has been adopted by the customer;  
and  
providing a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction.

50. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the receiving further comprises receiving the identification from at least one of: the customer, a merchant, a web site operator, an acquaintance of the customer, a family member related to the customer, a doctor, a pharmacist, an insurance provider, and a government agency.

51. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the identification comprises at least one of: a unique identifier associated with the customer and a name of the customer.



52. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein said transaction comprises at least one of: a purchase of a product, a purchase of a service, an insurance premium, and an online purchase.

53. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the profile information comprises at least one of:

an age of the customer, a gender of the customer, a geographic location corresponding to a residence of the customer, a medical history of the customer, a medical history of the customer's family, an occupation of the customer, a previous preventative treatment adopted by the customer, and at least one preventative treatment not adopted by the customer.

54. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the preventative treatment further comprises at least one of:

a preventative health treatment, a preventative automobile repair, and a preventative home maintenance repair.

55. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 54, wherein the preventative health treatment comprises at least one of:

a blood pressure screening, a teeth-cleaning treatment, a mammogram, a pap smear, a sigmoidoscopy, a colonoscopy, an immunization, a psychiatric examination, a psychological examination, a dental examination and a physical examination.

56. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 49, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises:

determining the preventative treatment based on a list of preventative treatments not undertaken by the customer.

57. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 49, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises:

determining the preventative treatment based on a list of preventative treatments not undertaken by the customer within a predetermined time.

58. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 49, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises:

determining a plurality of preventative treatments, wherein the customer may adopt at least one of said plurality of preventative treatments.

59. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises determining a plurality of preventative treatments, the method further comprising:

comparing a future cost associated with each of said plurality of preventative treatments;  
and

selecting at least one of said plurality of preventative treatments based on said comparing.

60. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 59, wherein said selecting further comprises:

selecting a preventative treatment having at least one of: a lowest cost and a highest savings.

61. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 59, wherein the preventative treatment corresponds to at least one condition.

62. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 61, wherein the future cost is determined based on a probability of the customer contracting the condition.

63. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 61, wherein the future cost is determined based on a probability of the customer contracting the condition within a predetermined time.

64. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 61, wherein the future cost is determined based on a total cost for treating the condition.

65. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein said adopting comprises an agreement by the customer to undertake the preventative treatment.

66. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, further comprising:  
receiving a confirmation from a third party that the preventative treatment has been adopted by the customer.

67. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 66, further comprising:  
updating profile information corresponding to the customer based on the confirmation.

68. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit is provided by an insurer of the customer.

69. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 68, further comprising:  
determining a future cost based on a probability that the customer will remain insured by the insurer for a predetermined time; and  
selecting a preventative treatment based on the future cost.

70. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, further comprising:  
receiving a security for the benefit from the customer.

71. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 70, wherein the security comprises an authorization to charge a financial account in the amount of the benefit.

72. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 71, wherein the financial account comprises at least one of: a checking account, a savings account, a credit card account, and an alternative currency account.

73. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 70, wherein the security is used to reimburse the payment of the benefit when a predetermined condition is not met.

74. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 73, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a determination that the preventative treatment was adopted.

75. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 73, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a determination that the preventative treatment was adopted within a predetermined time.

76. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 73, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a requirement that the customer remain insured by an insurer for a predetermined time.

77. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 73, wherein the predetermined condition comprises a requirement that the customer selects an insurance provider.

78. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, further comprising:  
assigning a treatment provider for the selected preventative treatment.

79. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit comprises at least one of: a currency amount, an alternate currency amount, a percentage discount on a purchase, and a reduced insurance premium.

80. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit is provided to the customer.

81. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit is provided to the customer after receipt of a confirmation that the preventative treatment has been adopted.

82. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit is provided to a third party involved in the transaction.

83. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, further comprising:  
determining the benefit based on an expected future cost.
84. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, further comprising:  
determining an expected present value of a future cost; and  
determining the benefit based on the present value.
85. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit is provided in  
at least one installment payment.
86. (WITHDRAWN) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit is provided to  
at least one of: a party referring the customer, and a party identified by the customer.
87. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the benefit is provided by  
at least one of: an insurer, a group of insurers, a physician, an employer, a family member of the  
customer, a government agency, a drug manufacturer, a medical equipment manufacturer, an  
automobile repair center and a maintenance provider.
88. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, further comprising:  
receiving a medical statistic of the customer with the identification.
89. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the identification does not  
include a name of the customer.
90. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the preventative  
treatment comprises an agreement to avoid the undertaking of a hazardous activity.
91. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein the preventative  
treatment comprises an educational assignment regarding a condition.

92. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 91, wherein the educational assignment comprises at least one of: attendance of an educational seminar and reading educational literature.

93. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 49, wherein said determining a preventative treatment further comprises determining a preventative treatment based on profile information corresponding to the customer.

94. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for providing a benefit, the method comprising:

receiving a first identification of a transaction involving a customer;  
transmitting a second identification of a preventative treatment to the customer;  
receiving an indication that the preventative treatment has been adopted by the customer;  
and  
providing a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction.

95. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for providing a benefit, comprising:

means for receiving a first identification of a transaction involving a customer;  
means for transmitting a second identification of a preventative treatment to the customer;  
means for receiving an indication that the preventative treatment has been adopted by the customer; and  
means for providing a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction.

96. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for providing a benefit, comprising:

a processor; and  
a memory in operative communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions directing the processor to:

receive a first identification of a transaction involving a customer;  
transmit a second identification of a preventative treatment to the customer;  
receive an indication that the preventative treatment has been adopted by the customer; and  
provide a benefit to the customer toward ~~for~~ the transaction.

97. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for providing a benefit, comprising:  
receiving a first identification of a transaction between a customer and a third party;  
determining a preventative treatment and a benefit;  
transmitting a second identification of the preventative treatment and a third identification of the benefit to the customer;  
receiving an indication that the preventative treatment has been adopted by the customer;  
and  
providing the benefit toward the transaction between the customer and the third party in response to said indication.

98. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 97, wherein a value for the benefit is determined from an expected future cost corresponding to the preventative treatment.

99 – 110. (CANCELED)